DIRECTORS' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

HUMBER PILOTAGE (C.H.A.) LIMITED (Registered Number 41972)

31 DECEMBER 1997



DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

The directors present their report and the audited accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 1997.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The principal activity of the company throughout the year under review was to provide pilotage and related services for the Humber Pilotage area. The company's parent undertaking, Associated British Ports, is designated under the Pilotage Act 1987 as the Competent Harbour Authority which is charged with providing such services.

PROFIT AND APPROPRIATIONS

	£'000
Profit available for appropriation Dividends proposed	887 <u>(900</u>)
Retained loss transferred to reserves	(13)
	====

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT 1988 (PILOTAGE ACCOUNTS)

Appendix 1 to these accounts sets out the 1997 Operating Results in the form prescribed by Regulation 4, Statutory Instrument 1988 No 2216, The Statutory Harbour Undertakings (Pilotage Accounts) Regulations 1988.

REVIEW OF BUSINESS

The company has continued to trade at a satisfactory level.

DIRECTORS

The directors who held office during the year were as follows:

D Dunn OBE (resigned 18/11/97)
M G Fell (Chairman)
C Silvester
Captain P P Hames
Captain J R W Myers (resigned 31/12/97)

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997 (continued)

DIRECTORS' SHARE INTERESTS

No director had any beneficial interest in the shares of the company during the year. The beneficial, including family, interests of the directors in the share capital of Associated British Ports Holdings PLC are shown below:

	Ordinary of 25p ea		Ordinary of 25p held by Trustees Employee Ownership	each y the of the Share	Ordinary of 25p subject Options the s Related Executive Option So	each to under Savings- and Share
	<u>1997</u>	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996
M G Fell	-	-	1,050	868	96,141	62,754
C Silvester	35,871	36,127	1,690	1,850	68,859	54,144
Capt P P Hames		-	-	-	43,513	30,000

AUDITORS

A resolution to re-appoint Price Waterhouse as auditors and to authorise the directors to fix their remuneration will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board

H T LAMBERT Secretary

4 March 1998

Registered Office

150 Holborn LONDON EC1N 2LR

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors confirm that the financial statements comply with the above requirements. The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF HUMBER PILOTAGE (C.H.A.) LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 5 to 12 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on pages 7 and 8.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 3 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at 31 December 1997 and of the profit of the company for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

PRICE WATERHOUSE

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors Southwark Towers 32 London Bridge Street LONDON SE1 9SY 4 March 1998

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

	Notes	<u>1997</u> £′000	<u>1996</u> £'000
TURNOVER	1 (2)	12,788	12,491
Cost of sales		(<u>10,844</u>)	(<u>10,824</u>)
GROSS PROFIT		1,944	1,667
Administration expenses		(625)	<u>(617</u>)
OPERATING PROFIT	2	1,319	1,050
Interest	4	<u>(69</u>)	(19)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		1,250	1,031
Taxation	5	<u>(363</u>)	<u>(304</u>)
PROFIT FOR THE YEAR		887	727
Dividends	6	<u>(900</u>)	<u>(700</u>)
AMOUNT TRANSFERRED TO RESERVES		(13)	27
RESERVES BROUGHT FORWARD		2,032	2,005
RESERVES CARRIED FORWARD		2,019	2,032 =====

There are no recognised gains or losses other than the profit attributable to shareholders of the company of £887,000 in the year ended 31 December 1997 and of £727,000 in the year ended 31 December 1996.

As detailed in note 15, the business and assets of the Company were transferred to the Parent Company and therefore, all the above figures relate to discontinued activities for Humber Pilotage (CHA) Ltd.

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET - 31 DECEMBER 1997

FIXED ASSETS	Notes	<u>1997</u> £′000	<u>1996</u> £'000
Tangible operating assets	7	2,980	2,980
CURRENT ASSETS Stores and materials Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	8 9	46 1,688 <u>770</u>	63 1,938 <u>426</u>
		2,504	2,427
CREDITORS (due within one year)	10	<u>(3,435</u>)	(3,325)
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>(931</u>)	<u>(898</u>)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		2,049	2,082
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES Deferred taxation	11	<u> </u>	(20)
NET ASSETS		2,049 =====	2,062 ======
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Issued share capital Profit and loss account	12	30 2,019	30 2,032
EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	13	2,049 ======	2,062

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these accounts.

DIRECTOR

APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON 4 March 1998

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 DECEMBER 1997

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(1) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with applicable accounting standards and under the historical cost convention.

(2) Turnover

Turnover comprises the amounts receivable in respect of pilotage services provided during the year.

(3) Operating leases

Amounts payable in respect of operating leases are charged to the profit and loss account.

(4) Fixed assets - tangible operating assets

Tangible operating assets are included at cost.

Depreciation is provided on the straight line method by reference to the expected useful lives of the various types of asset. No depreciation is charged in respect of freehold land.

The asset lives used are:

Freehold buildings 50 years
Long leasehold buildings and jetty 50 years
Short leasehold improvements 50 years
Vessels 10 - 15 years
Plant and equipment 15 - 30 years
Motor vehicles 2 - 3 years

(5) Stores and materials

Stores and materials are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

(6) Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is only provided on timing differences when it is expected that the potential tax liability will be payable in the foreseeable future.

(7) Retirement benefits

The ABP Group operates a number of defined benefit type pension schemes. The majority of the scheme members are in funded schemes with the assets being held in separate trustee-administered funds. During 1996, it was agreed that the assets and liabilities of three funded schemes should be merged into a new Group scheme.

The expected cost of pensions in respect of the Group's defined benefit pension schemes is charged to the profit and loss account so as to spread the cost of pensions over the service lives of employees in the schemes. Past service surpluses and other variations from the regular cost are spread over the expected remaining service lives of current employees in the schemes. The pension cost is assessed in accordance with the advice of independent actuaries.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 DECEMBER 1997 (continued)

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(8) <u>Cash Flows</u>

The company is not required by FRS1 to produce a statement of cash flows as the results of the company are consolidated into the accounts of Associated British Ports Holdings PLC.

2 PROFIT BEFORE INTEREST AND TAXATION

	<u>1997</u> £′000	<u>1996</u> £′000
Profit before interest and taxation is stated after charging:		
Wages and salaries	1,556	1,382
Social security costs	120	111
Other pension costs	108	101
Depreciation	366	331
Operating lease rentals	10	12
Auditors' remuneration - statutory audit	4	4
	=====	=====

3 DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES

(1) <u>Directors' emoluments</u>

1997 £'000	<u>1996</u> £′000
	£ 000
59	59
	1997 £'000

One director benefited as a result of contributions made to the defined contribution pension scheme of the company.

		Number	Number
(2)	Average number of employees	72	64
	(including directors)	=====	=====

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 DECEMBER 1997 (continued)

3 DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES (continued)

(3) Retirement benefits

Independent actuaries carry out valuations of both the funded pension schemes and the unfunded pension liabilities which provide pension benefits for approximately two-thirds of ABP Group employees.

The previous valuation was undertaken as at 31 December 1994. actuaries' report was received and during 1996, after agreement with the schemes' Trustees, certain benefit improvements were agreed. It was further agreed that the assets and liabilities of the three schemes should be merged into a new Group scheme with effect from October 1996. The market value of the assets of the three schemes at the valuation date was £260.6 million. actuarial value of the assets represented 133 per cent of the benefits which had accrued to members after allowing for future expected increases in earnings and the benefit improvements, agreed by the Trustees consequent to the valuation, but before any additional liabilities which may arise. The Attained Age method was used to value two of the three funded schemes and the Projected Unit method for the other scheme. The valuations as at 31 December 1994 assumed that investment return will exceed salary increases by 2 per cent per annum and exceed future pension increases by 4 percent per annum. The rate of increase in dividends was assumed to match inflation. The schemes are funded on a more conservative basis than that used to determine the pension credit.

The actuaries have recently completed an approximate review of the scheme to assess the impact of the main factors affecting the ABP Group Pension Scheme over the three years since the previous actuarial valuation. Overall they have concluded that experience has been favourable and should fully offset the adverse impact on liabilities of the change on the tax treatment of dividends introduced in the 1997 budget. As a result of this, there have been no changes to the amortisation of past service surpluses in 1997. The treatment for 1998 onwards will be based upon the results of the actuarial valuation of the scheme being undertaken as at 31 December 1997. The full actuaries' report will be received and reviewed in 1998.

The total pension cost for the company in respect of the year ended 31 December 1997 was £108,000 (1996 - £101,000).

4 INTEREST

	=====	=====
	(69)	(19)
Interest receivable from parent undertaking Interest payable to parent undertaking	35 <u>(104</u>)	33 <u>(52</u>)
	<u>1997</u> £′000	<u>1996</u> £'000

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 DECEMBER 1997 (continued)

5 TAXATION

	Based on the profi	it on ordina	ırv activiti	ies	<u>1997</u> £′000	<u>1996</u> £'000	
	for the year: Group relief payab Deferred tax write Prior year adjustm	ole at 31.5% e - back	_	383 (20)	306 - (2)		
							
					363 ====	304	
						====	
6	DIVIDENDS						
					<u>1997</u> £′000	<u>1996</u> £′000	
	Dividends proposed (1996 - £23.33 p		er share		900	700	
7	TANGIBLE OPERATING	ASSETS			= = = =	====	
	_	Freehold land and buildings	Long leasehold buildings and jetty	Short leasehold improve- ments	Floating craft	Plant, equip- ment and motor vehicles	T o t a 1
		£′000	£'000	£′000	£′000	£′000	£'000
	Cost						
	At 1 January 1997 Additions Disposals	74 107 -	902 29 -	250 - -	2,352	1,212 228 (100)	4,790 384 (100)
	At 31 December 19	97 181 =====	931 =====	250 ====	2,372	1,340 =====	5,074
	Depreciation						
	At 1 January 1997 Charge for the year Disposals	26 ar 2 -	356 64 -	32 - -	809 144 -	587 156 (82)	1,810 366 (82)
	At 31 December 19	_	420	32	953	661	2,094
	Net book amount	====	====	====	=====	====	====
	At 31 December 19	97 153 =====	511 =====	218 ====	1,419	679	2,980
	At 31 December 19		== == 546	218	===== 1,543	===== 625	2,980
		=====	=====	=====	· ======		_,

The short leasehold improvements relate to premises which the company is renting from its parent undertaking, under a short-term tenancy.

Freehold land of £28,000, shown under tangible operating assets, is not subject to a depreciation charge.

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 DECEMBER 1997 (continued)

8 STORES AND MATERIALS

				<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
	Spare parts Gas and heating oil			39 7	54 9
				46 =====	63 ======
9	DEBTORS (due within one	year)			
				<u>1997</u> £′000	<u>1996</u> £′000
	Trade debtors Amounts owed by group u Other debtors	ndertakings	5	1,599 30 26	1,349 501 66
	Prepayments and accrued	income		33	22
		-		1,688 =====	1,938 =====
10	CREDITORS (due within o	ne year)			
				<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
	Trade creditors Capital expenditure Amounts owed to group u Other creditors Group tax relief payabl Proposed dividend Accruals	•	·	29 17 1,401 678 383 900 27	70 24 1,527 674 306 700
				3,435 == == =	3,325 =====
11	DEFERRED TAXATION				
			997		996
		Provided in the accounts	Potential full provision £'000	Provided in the accounts	Potential Full Provision £'000
	Arising in respect of capital allowances	- =====	501 =====	20 =====	494 ====
12	ISSUED SHARE CAPITAL				
				<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
	Authorised, issued, call 30,000 Ordinary shares	led up and s of £1 eac	fully paid h	30	30

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 DECEMBER 1997 (continued)

13 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

		<u>1997</u> £′000	<u>1996</u> £'000
	Profit for the year Dividends	887 <u>(900</u>)	727 <u>(700</u>)
	Net (decrease)/increase in shareholders' funds Shareholders' funds at 1 January	(13) <u>2,062</u>	27 2,035
	Shareholders' funds at 31 December	2,049 =====	2,062 =====
14	FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS		
	Capital expenditure	<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
	Contracted but not provided for in		
	these accounts at 31 December	12 =====	32 ====

Operating leases

Commitments during the next financial year in respect of operating lease payments (land and buildings - nil) are as follows:

Other leases - Company cars now done at Head Office

			====	=====
Leases w	hich expire	between 1 and 5	years 0	8
Leases w	which expire	e within 1 year	0	3

15 POST BALANCE SHEET EVENT

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Since the year end, the Company has ceased trading. Its business, assets and liabilities have been transferred to Humber Marine Services, a division of ABP.

16 ULTIMATE PARENT UNDERTAKING

The company's ultimate parent undertaking is Associated British Ports Holdings PLC. The company's immediate parent undertaking is Associated British Ports.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption offered by FRS 8 not to disclose transactions with other group companies.

Copies of the group accounts can be obtained from:

Associated British Ports Holdings PLC 150 Holborn London EC1N 2LR

APPENDIX I

OPERATING RESULTS - YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

Operating results in the form prescribed by Regulation 4, Statutory Instrument 1988 No 2216, The Statutory Harbour Undertakings (Pilotage Accounts) Regulations 1988.

(1)	REVENUE	
		£'000
	Charges in respect of:	
	(a) Pilotage Services provided as authorised by section 10(1) of the Pilotage Act 1987	12,066
	(b) Use of Pilotage Exemption Certificates issued as authorised by section 10(3) of the Pilotage Act 1987	722
	Total revenue	12,788
(2)	EXPENDITURE	
	Expenditure incurred in:	
	 (a) Providing the services of a Pilot (b) Providing, maintaining and operating pilot boats (c) Meeting liabilities under Part III of the Pilotage Act 1987 (d) Administration and other costs not included in 	8,956 1,880
	(a) - (c) above in respect of pilotage functions	633
	Total expenditure	11,469
	OPERATING PROFIT	1,319
	INTEREST PAID (NET)	(69)
	TAXATION	(363)
		887
	PROPOSED DIVIDEND	(900)
	NET LOSS TRANSFERRED TO RESERVES	(13)